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IT'S A BOY

Prince Harry and Meghan Markle welcomed their first child to the royal family on Monday. 2

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It's a boy! Meghan and Harry welcome royal baby

The newborn son of Prince Harry and the Duchess of Essex is seventh-in-line to the throne.

Meghan Markle gave birth to a boy on Monday, the seventh-in-line to the throne and described by his proud father as "absolutely to die for."

The baby, who has not yet been named, was born in the early hours of the morning weighing 7 pounds, 3 ounces. Meghan and the baby, the couple's first child, were both healthy and well, the palace said.

"How any woman does what they do is beyond comprehension but we're both absolutely thrilled and so grateful to all the love and support from everybody out there," a smiling Prince Harry told reporters in Windsor, west of London, where the couple live.

"It was amazing, absolutely incredible. As I say, I am so incredibly proud of my wife and, as every father and parent would ever say your baby is absolutely amazing, this little thing is absolutely to die for."

Harry, Queen Elizabeth's grandson, was present for the birth and Doria Ragland, Meghan's mother, was with the couple at their home, Frogmore Cottage, on the estate of Windsor Castle where they married in a lavish ceremony in May last year.

The baby is the eighth great-grandchild of the 93-year-old queen, the world's longest-reigning monarch, and could be entitled to hold joint British and American citizenship according to nationality rules.

However, the child will not automatically be a prince or a princess and any such title would have to be bestowed by the queen by issuing what is known as a letter patent.

The queen and other members of the royal family, including the sister and brother of Harry's late mother, Princess Diana, were delighted by the news of the birth, the palace said.

Britain's royal family attracts huge media interest but the younger members, especially Harry, 34, and Meghan, 37, are treated like Hollywood superstars.

Their baby is the first mixed-race baby born into a senior position in British royalty, according to royal experts.

announcing the birth was posted on a ceremonial easel on the forecourt of Buckingham Palace.

The palace did not confirm whether Meghan gave birth at home. While the late Princess Diana gave birth to Harry and his older brother William in hospital, the queen's four children were all born at Buckingham Palace.

> **"How any woman does what they do is beyond comprehension but we're both absolutely thrilled and so grateful to all the love and support from everybody out there."**
>
> **Prince Harry**

For some this is a significant moment for the monarchy. Others note, however, that Meghan, whose mother is African-American and father is white, has been the target of racist commentary on social media.

"It's symbolic of a more modern monarchy. It appeals to people across the world," royal biographer Claudia Joseph told Reuters. "They will be able to identify with the royal family as never before."

Harry and Meghan used their official Instagram account to announce the birth, in modern fashion. But in accordance with a tradition dating back at least to 1837 when Buckingham Palace became the sovereign's official residence, some hours later a notice

James, Alexander, Albert, Philip and Arthur are among the favorite names for the child, according to bookmakers.

"We're still thinking about names," Harry said. "The baby's a little bit overdue so we've had a little bit of time to think about it ... that's the next bit."

Meghan's father Thomas Markle, a former lighting director for TV soaps and sitcoms, said he was delighted at the news.

"I am proud that my new grandson is born into the British royal family and I am sure that he will grow up to serve the crown and the people of Britain with grace, dignity and honor," he said in a statement to the Sun newspaper.

"TOPS THE WEDDING"

Unlike Prince William and his wife Kate, who posed for massed photographers outside a London hospital just hours after their three children were born, Harry and Meghan are expected to take part in only a limited photo call on the grounds of Windsor Castle in the next couple of days.

Harry has held a special place in the hearts of many Britons since millions around the world watched him, aged just 12, walk slowly behind his mother's coffin as the funeral cortege made its way through the packed streets of London after Diana's death in a Paris car crash in 1997.

In his youth, he found himself in the headlines for underage drinking, wearing a Nazi outfit to a costume party and scuffling with photographers outside London nightclubs.

But after a successful stint in the army, where he served two tours of duty in Afghanistan, his relaxed style and playful antics when on official engagements have seen him become one of the most popular members of the royal family.

"It means an awful lot to me. This tops the wedding," said royal fan John Loughrey, 64, from London, who said he had been sleeping out in Windsor for the last three days. "They've brought a royal baby into the world, we're all excited." REUTERS

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ISTOCK

Queens toddler chained inside torched car's death ruled homicide

Law enforcement officials reported that the doors of the burned car were chained shut from the inside.

NATE HOMAN
letters@metro.us

A 3-year-old girl's death from injuries sustained in a car fire in Queens, which law enforcement officials reported was chained shut from the inside, has been ruled a homicide.

Zoey Pereira was found in a burning car on Baisley Boulevard near Rockaway Boulevard in Springfield Gardens at about 8:50 p.m. on Sunday night, according to the New York Daily News.

Reports indicated that the car's back doors were chained shut, and that a propane tank and two canisters of gas were found in the trunk.

The child was taken to Jamaica Hospital, where she later succumbed to her injuries.

FDNY sources told PIX 11 that the chains strapped to the car doors gave way due to the heat, and firefighters were able to get the child out.

Police are currently questioning her father, who was also injured in the blaze.

Witnesses told police that the 39-year-old Long Island man dove into a nearby pond in order to extinguish flames, which left him with critical injuries. He is reportedly in stable condition.

While he was taken into police custody, he has not been charged with any crimes.

"I have my kid in the car," the dad told a bystander, who called 911. The man and the girl's mother have a reported history of domestic violence, and do not live together, according to ABC 7. They were allegedly battling over custody of the girl.

The cause of the child's death and the cause of the fire remained under investigation.

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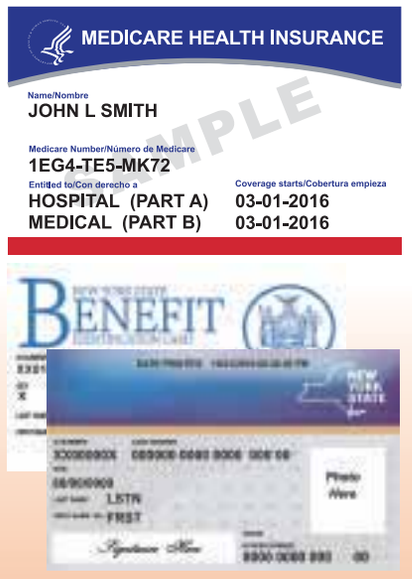

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BRIEF

Former FBI interpreter arrested for false statements and obstruction

A Virginia man who worked as an FBI interpreter in counterterrorism cases, and whose sons were also investigated by U.S. authorities, has been arrested and charged with federal crimes, the Justice Department said in a statement on Monday.

Abdirizak Jaji Raghe Wehelie, 66, was arrested on Saturday on charges of making false statements and obstructing a federal probe as he disembarked from a flight into Dulles International Airport in Virginia, a law enforcement official said.

Wehelie worked under contract as an FBI linguist and translator between June 2012 and May 2015, court documents said.

While doing so, according to an unsealed superseding indictment, the FBI was conducting electronic surveillance of two people, identified only as Persons A and B, who were implicated in a counterterrorism investigation.

The indictment said Person B traveled to Somalia to join the Islamic militant group al Shabaab, and was listed on the FBI's "Most Wanted Terrorist" list.

Nina Ginsberg, a lawyer for Wehelie, said his case was not related to national security or militants overseas.

Wehelie's indictment alleged he made false statements to the FBI about phone contacts and in-person discussions he had with Person A, whom the FBI said had "conspired with" and "aided and abetted" Person B. REUTERS

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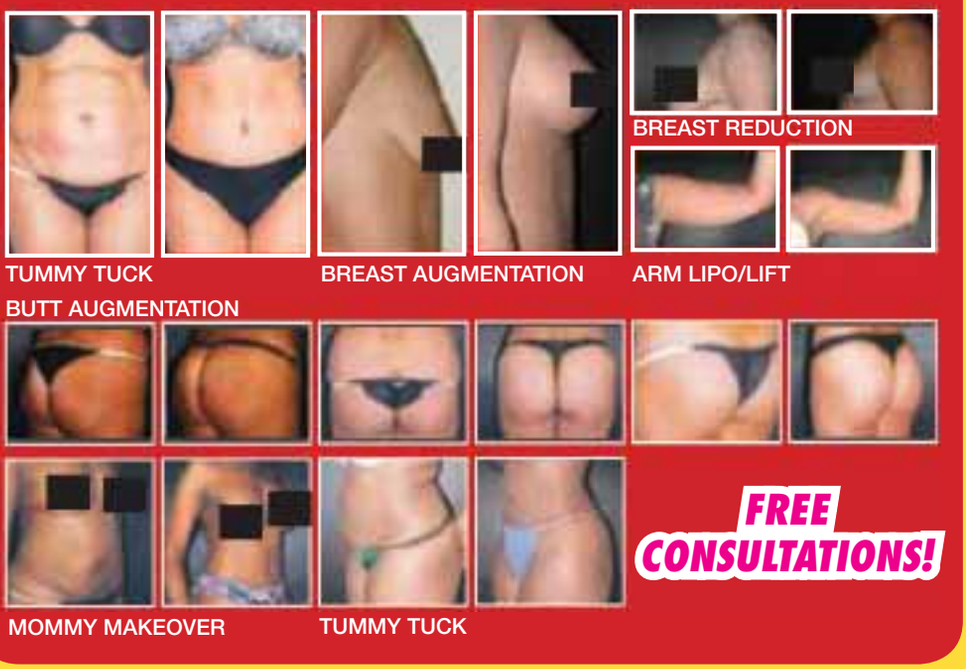

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Armageddon: NASA-simulated asteroid event reduces New York City to rubble

Calculations showed that NYC would get rocked by an asteroid in 2027.

NATE HOMAN
letters@metro.us

NASA simulated a fictitious asteroid disaster scenario that kills millions, levels Manhattan, and drums up nostalgia for catastrophe movies like the 1998 hit "Armageddon."

The simulation program was a part of the White House's "National Near-Earth Object Preparedness Strategy and Action Plan," which pinpoints possible locations in the eastern United States or the briny depths of the Atlantic Ocean where a "highly unlikely" worst-case scenario has occurred.

"These exercises have really helped us in the Planetary Defense community to understand what our colleagues on the disaster management side need to know," NASA's Planetary Defense Officer Lindley Johnson said in a statement. "This exercise will help us develop more effective communications with each other and with our governments."

In the simulation, facing 1-in-10 chances, a 140- to 260-meter-long fictional asteroid crashed into the Earth's atmosphere over Denver, Colorado.

NASA gave 200 assembled scientists, engineers and emergency services specialists of the International Asteroid Warning Network the equivalent of eight years to build six "kinetic impactor" rockets intended to hit the asteroid with enough force to divert it from its course. Factoring in the human elements like production and troubleshooting, experts estimated that the "impactors" would be ready to launch in August 2024.

ISTOCK

The impactors successfully hit their target, but all was not well. A massive piece of the asteroid splintered off and set its course for Manhattan. The simulated asteroid detonated 15 kilometers above New York's Central Park with the force of 1,000 Hiroshima nuclear bombs, reducing everything within a 15-kilometer radius to rubble.

"Two months may not be enough time to really evacuate, because you're evacuating people who are stuck."
Brandy Johnson

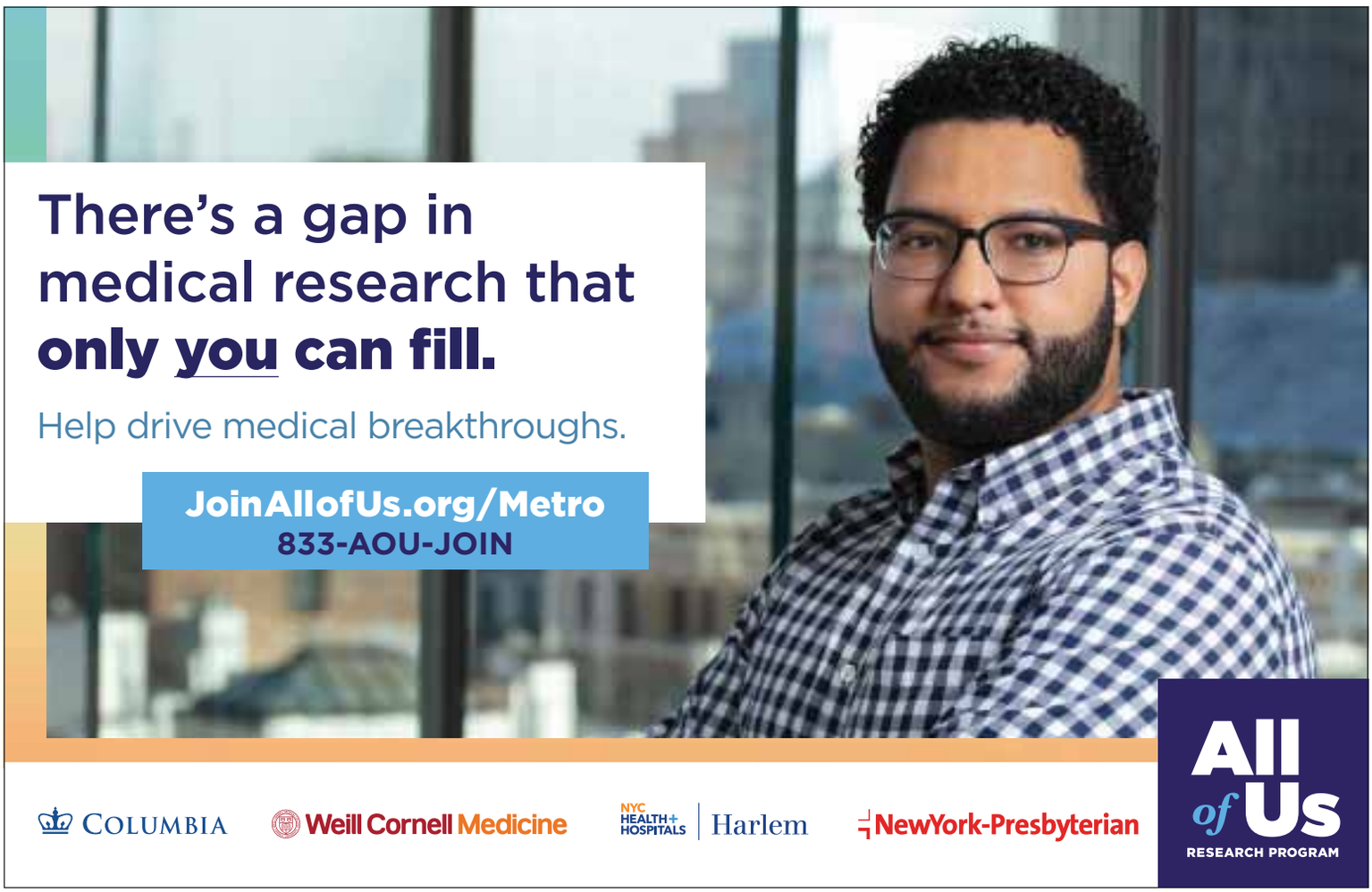
In the end, the only realistic way to save New Yorkers was to evacuate the city.

"Two months may not be enough time to really evacuate, because you're evacuating people who are stuck, who have to rebuild their lives where they're going," Brandy Johnson, who played the part of an "angry citizen" in the exercise, said. "You're going to have fleets of U-hauls."

On Feb. 15, 2013, an asteroid over Chelyabinsk, Russia, that collapsed building walls, shattered windows and reportedly injured more than 1,000 people, was not detected by any system prior to atmospheric entry. This pushed Aerospace Corporation, NASA headquarters and FEMA to start considering asteroid events and the aftermath of a short warning.

But since its inception, the "Planetary Defense" simulation program isn't exactly batting a thousand when it comes to taxpayer-funded, real-time Atari games. There have been six Near-Earth Object (NEO) simulations, three of which were held at Planetary Defense conferences. In 2013, Frascati, Italy was wiped off the face of the planet during a simulation. While Tokyo was saved from NEOs in 2017, the prospects look grim for NYC in 2019.

"Bringing together the disaster management community and the scientific community is critical to preparing for a potential asteroid impact in the future," Response Operations Division for FEMA member Leviticus Lewis said in a statement.



Why Aren't Doctors Telling Knee Arthritis Sufferers About These Two Often Successful Treatments?

Two Advanced Medical Treatments Every Knee Arthritis Sufferer Needs To Know - Before Or After Knee Replacement Surgery

NYC -If you suffer with knee arthritis pan, you have probably already tried *many* treatments... especially countless pain medications. With minimal or no results

Are there any better options?

Thankfully, advancements in science and technology come extremely fast. And now there are two very good options for knee arthritis *a lot of knee arthritis sufferers have never heard of.*

Before we get into the two treatments, please understand this...

NYC Pain MD is a REAL medical clinic that has treated thousands of knee arthritis sufferers. Patients travel from all over the tai-state to be treated at one of their clinics because they want the best medical treatments available.

What you are about to discover are two REAL medical treatments. Not miracle cures you see on infomercials or on the internet.

Know this fact: <u>There is no cure for arthritis.</u> But there are *these* two treatments that have already helped thousands of knee arthritis sufferers - possibly just like you.

#1 Viscosupplementation

Here's what you need to know about viscosupplementation - the good and the bad....

When you have arthritis, you suffer a decrease in the lubrication fluids in your knee. In other words, your knee joints basically "dries up."

The lubricating fluid that decreases is called "synovial fluid."

Pharmaceutical companies (with the help of scientists) can now make synovial fluid-like compounds that... during viscosupplementaiton treatments... doctors precisely inject directly into the knee joint.

This helps replace the lubricating fluid to the knee joint - allowing it to move more freely and smoothly and often decreasing or even eliminating the pain.

What Results Can Be Expected?

Like all medical treatments, the results vary and can not be predicted. But many knee arthritis sufferers get dramatic results. It is not uncommon for patients to either postpone knee replacement surgery for years... or even permanently cancel it.

But There Is A BIG Problem

The key is the treatment must be EXTREMELY PRECISE. If the procedure is slightly off, the formula will not get into the knee joint and the treatment will not work.

That's why the experts at ***NYC Pain MD*** use advanced digital imaging so they visually guide the injection accurately into the knee joint during the treatment.

Research shows that performing joint injections without imaging miss the joint as much as 30% of the time.

If you have had prior viscosupplementation without this special digital imaging without good results - this may be the exact reason why.

That's why NYC Pain MD even takes it one step further. They do not just use one form of advanced imaging during treatment - they use two in their "double confirmation" process. This is to ensure patients get the best possible results.

Another Important Factor

Viscosupplementation "medicines" also come in several different formulas.

Just like all medications, some people respond better to one than another. While many doctors only use one formula, the experts at NYC Pain MD use several and great effort is taken to figure out what the best one is for you.

What Should You Do If Viscosupplementation Fails?

#2 Radiofrequency Neurotomy

This treatment is called, "Radiofrequncy Neurotomy." RF for short

RF is a procedure that is based on the theory that blocking the nerve supply to the painful area may alleviate pain and restore function.

Several branches of nerves that surround the knee are known as "Genicular nerves."

Radiofrequncy waves are delivered to the Genicular nerves under advanced imaging to "block" the nerves.

Two procedures are performed. First, a test, diagnostic "G Block" procedure is done to determine if the procedure is going to decrease pain and improve function.

If this first "test" procedure is successful, Genicular Neurotomy (GRF) is performed for long term relief.

Is It Safe?

Research has shown this procedure to be safe and effective.

One study published November 4, 2010 in the journal *Pain* found that RF treated subjects on average "achieved at least 50% knee pain relief at 1, 4 and 12 weeks, respectively. No patient reported a post-procedure adverse event during the follow-up period. RF neurotomy of Genicular nerves leads to significant pain reduction and functional improvement in a subset of elderly chronic knee OA pain, and thus may be an effective treatment in such cases."

Who Should Try This Treatment?

RF should be considered after other treatments, such as anti-inflammatory pain medication, physical rehab or viscosupplementation do not offer good enough results.

RF may be utilized before resorting to total knee replacement. RF allows many patients to avoid knee replacement surgery.

<u>But - RF has also been found effective AFTER knee replacement surgery when the patient still feels pain.</u>

The pain after a failed knee replacement surgery can be debilitating and this procedure may be the only thing that helps and give you after surgery relief.

Advanced Imaging Allows Doctors To Pin-Point Treatments And Relieve Knee Arthritis Pain

Science rescues knee arthritis sufferers? Research shows joint injections done without advanced imaging misses the joint about 30% of the time. Now doctors can put lubricating fluid directly into the arthritis joint that may alleviate pain and restore function to many.

What To Do Next If You Are In Pain

NYC Pain MD offers a limited number of complimentary knee arthritis t screenings every month. These screenings are a way for knee arthritis sufferers to get their questions answered and see if they are a candidate for one of the cutting-edge treatments offered at ***NYC Pain MD.*** If you would like to schedule a screening, just call 877-380-8537.

The screenings fill up fast every month. This screening is no cost and there absolutely no obligation.

More good news: **for qualified candidates, insurances and Medicare often cover these treatments.**

NYC PAIN MD

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Cohen reports to prison after taking harsh parting shot at President Trump

Trump's former personal lawyer began his three-year sentence Monday.

Michael Cohen, President Donald Trump's former personal lawyer, took a parting shot at his former boss — denouncing "xenophobia, injustice and lies" — before reporting to a U.S. federal prison on Monday to begin a three-year sentence.

Cohen, who once vowed to "take a bullet" for Trump but now calls him a "con man," arrived at the Federal Correctional Institution in Otisville, New York, about 70 miles northwest of New York City to serve his sentence for arranging hush payments to two women who said they had sexual encounters with Trump and for lying to Congress.

Michael Cohen. REUTERS

Cohen was driven in a black SUV into the front entrance of the prison grounds shortly after 11:30 a.m., some 2½ hours before his deadline to report. The vehicle stopped and was approached by law enforcement officers, who appeared to speak to its occupants for several minutes. It then drove on, out of view.

Before being driven to the facility, Cohen made brief remarks to a crush of camera crews and reporters gathered on the sidewalk outside his Manhattan apartment building.

"I hope that when I rejoin my family and friends, that the country will be in a place without xenophobia, injustice and lies at the helm of our country," he said. "There still remains much to be told, and I look forward to the day that I can share the truth."

Cohen, 52, was dressed in jeans, sneakers, a white shirt and a navy blue blazer as he exited the Trump Park Avenue building, with a doorman holding the door as he departed.

Several dozen bystanders stopped to take pictures and one shook his hand. As Cohen began to leave after making his remarks, the scene became chaotic, with equipment and people falling to the ground. Cohen helped one journalist who had fallen to get back on his feet. Cohen then climbed into the back seat of a black vehicle and was driven away.

Cohen is expected to stay at the prison's minimum security camp.

Cohen's prison term completes a stunning fall for the native of New York's Long Island whose career was tethered to Trump as he evolved from wealthy real estate developer to reality TV personality to politician. For more than a decade, Cohen served as Trump's personal lawyer and self-described "fixer."

> **"There still remains much to be told, and I look forward to the day that I can share the truth."**
>
> **Michael Cohen**

Lanny Davis, a spokesman for Cohen, issued a statement on Monday praising Cohen's "courageous decision ... to tell the truth about why Donald Trump represented a danger to our Constitution, our freedoms and our nation's fundamental values." Davis said Cohen "will continue to be accessible to Congress and to federal, state and local law enforcement." REUTERS

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Demand Soars At NYC Medical Clinic For Promising Back Pain Treatment

Can This Medical Technology Possibly Eliminate Or Greatly Reduce Even The Most Severe Back Pain... Almost Instantly?

The Advanced Medical Treatment Every Back & Neck Pain Sufferer Needs To Know - No Matter How Bad The Pain Is Or How Many Other Treatments Have Failed

NYC Pain MD is a medical clinic with two locations in New York City that has made a name for itself by treating the worst cases of back or neck pain.

Here is what every back and neck pain sufferer who has failed to respond to other treatments and does not want surgery should know about one of the best treatment options available today for severe back and neck pain including when, why and where you should consider this treatment to get maximum results.

If you suffer with back, neck or nerve pain, you have probably already tried *many treatments...* especially countless pain medications.

Experienced doctors understand that even though pain medications such as anti-inflammatory pain pills are part of the recommended early treatment plan for back pain... they are rarely the answer.

In most cases they have minimal, short term results (if any) and have a laundry list of potential side effects. Some being serious and even life threatening.

Are there any better options?

Thankfully, advancements in science and technology come extremely fast. And now there is very good option to help relieve the pain.

An option that a lot of back and neck pain sufferers may have never heard of before.

Before we get into these treatments, please understand this...

NYC Pain MD is a REAL medical clinic that has treated the worst cases of back pain. Patients travel from all over to be treated at one of their clinics for all sorts of joint and muscle pain because they want the best medical treatments available.

What you are about to discover is a REAL medical treatment. Not some miracle cure you see on infomercials or on the internet.

Know this fact: There is no one treatment that will help every case of back pain. And we cannot guarantee this treatment will work for you. But this treatment has already helped countless back and neck pain sufferers who had given up hope. I bet many just like you.

What is this treatment? It's called...

Radiofrequency Neurotomy

"Radiofrequncy Neurotomy" is often referred to as RF for short.

RF is a procedure that is based on the theory that blocking the nerve supply to the painful area may alleviate pain and restore function.

There are many nerves around your spine and one of their jobs is to sense PAIN.

Radiofrequency waves are delivered to these nerves under advanced imaging to "block" the nerves.

Two procedures are performed. First, a test, diagnostic "Block" procedure is done to determine if the procedure is going to decrease pain and improve function.

If this first "test" procedure is successful, the Radio Frequency Neurotomy is scheduled and performed for longer term relief.

What Results Can You Expect?

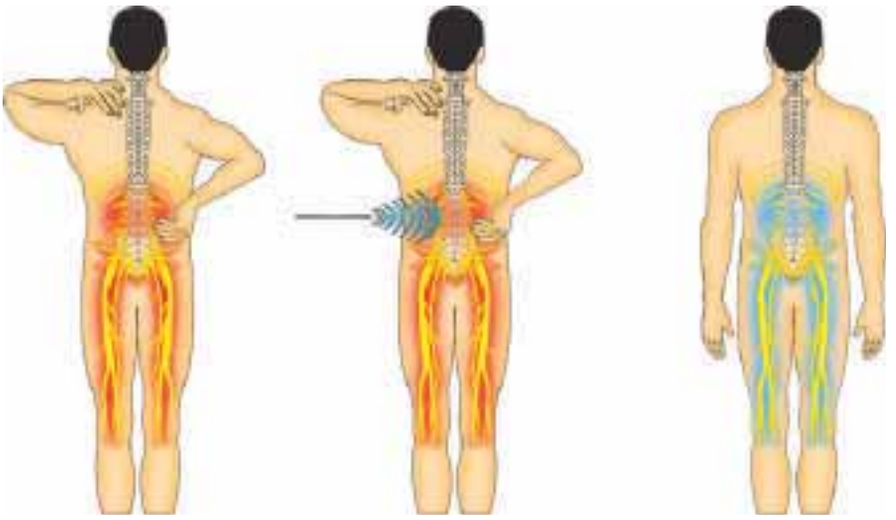
Like all real medical procedures... results vary for individual patients. No good and ethical doctor would guarantee any exact results for any procedure... that's just not how things work and it would be less than honest.

That's being said, it is not uncommon for patients to get complete, if not significant relief of their pain shortly after the treatment.

How Long Do The Results Last?

This procedure "blocks" the nerves pain signals... it does not destroy them. Therefore, the results are safe but not completely permanent. But, many patients get relief for 6 months… 12 months…. 18 months for some and some even longer. The great news is - another procedure can be safely preformed for more relief if necessary.

Advanced Treatment Uses Radio Frequencies To Relieve Serious Neck & Back Pain



Science rescues back & neck pain sufferers?: Radio Frequency Waves are used to block the nerve supply to the painful area and may alleviate pain and restore function to many.

While we cannot claim this is a complete "permanent cure" but... it can be a god-send for so many who were in constant pain.

Really... what would it be worth it to you could get out of pain for long enough so you could start enjoying your everyday life again?

Would it be worth it to be able to finally get a good nights sleep again?

How about being able to go for a simple walk or just do your basic daily chores without worrying about so much pain?

Is It Safe?

Yes. This procedure has been done countless times and continues to have an excellent safety record. It is minimally invasive and is not surgical.

Who Should Try This Treatment?

RF should be considered after other treatments, such as anti-inflammatory pain medication and physical therapy do not offer good enough results.

RF has also been found effective AFTER back surgery when patient's still feel pain.

The pain after a failed back surgery can be debilitating for some and this procedure may be the only thing that helps give you relief.

What To Do Next If You Are In Pain And The "X" Factor

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The screenings fill up fast every month. If you do not call in time to get one this month, the expert will schedule you for next month.

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Owner of DQ'd Maximum Security to appeal Kentucky Derby result

Gary West added that his horse will not race in the Preakness.

REUTERS

The owner of Maximum Security, the horse that finished first in the 145th Kentucky Derby on Saturday but was disqualified, said he would file an appeal with the state racing commission in an interview on NBC's "Today" show on Monday.

Gary West, whose horse became the first in the history of the famous race to be disqualified for an on-track infraction, said he was "stunned, shocked and in total disbelief" when second-place finisher Country House was declared the winner at Churchill Downs.

"This is something that is big enough that the entire racing world is looking at this and I think they deserve an opportunity to really know what was going on," West said of his decision to file an appeal.

After a 20-minute video review, officials found that Maximum Security, who was 4-1 favorite to win the 1¼-mile race, was guilty of a contact foul when he appeared to take a wide turn and impede other horses in the home stretch. The disqualification ruling handed the win to Country House, which had been a 65-1 long shot.

"It was literally like the old TV show, 'The thrill of victory and the agony of defeat,' all within a 22-minute period of time," said West.

"Winning it was the most euphoric thing I have probably ever had in our lives and disappointment when they took the horse down for the first time in history, we were stunned, shocked and in total disbelief. It had never been done before."

The decision even caught the attention of U.S. President Donald Trump, who said on Twitter the disqualification of Maximum Security could only happen in "these days of political correctness."

West said he did see Maximum Security, who led the race from nearly start to finish, move over several lanes but felt such contact was inevitable given the number of horses in the Derby.

The bay colt's owner also criticized Churchill Downs for allowing 20 horses in the race.

"Churchill Downs, because they're a greedy organization, has [20 horses] rather than 14 like you have in the Kentucky Oaks, the Breeders' Cup, every other race in America," said West.

"Just because they can make more money, they're willing to risk horses' lives and peoples' lives to do that. I'm not a fan of that. I think they ought to have 14 like every other race," said West.

"Yes, I saw the horse move out, but every Kentucky Derby, you could sit down two or three or four horses if you wanted to, because it's like a rodeo out there."

Churchill Downs did not immediately respond when asked to comment.

West also said there would be no rematch with Country Horse in the second leg of U.S. thoroughbred horse racing's Triple Crown, the May 18 Preakness Stakes at Baltimore's Pimlico Race Course.

"We are not going to run the Preakness," said West. "There's no Triple Crown on the line for us, and no reason to run a horse back in two weeks when you don't have to."

REUTERS

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Mets analyst Ron Darling diagnosed with thyroid cancer

Former New York Mets pitcher and current SNY analyst Ron Darling has been diagnosed with thyroid cancer, the 58-year-old announced Monday.

"My doctors have said they are optimistic that the cancer is treatable and that I would be back on-air talking baseball in the next month or so," Darling said in a statement. "I would also like to take this opportunity to thank everybody for their continued support."

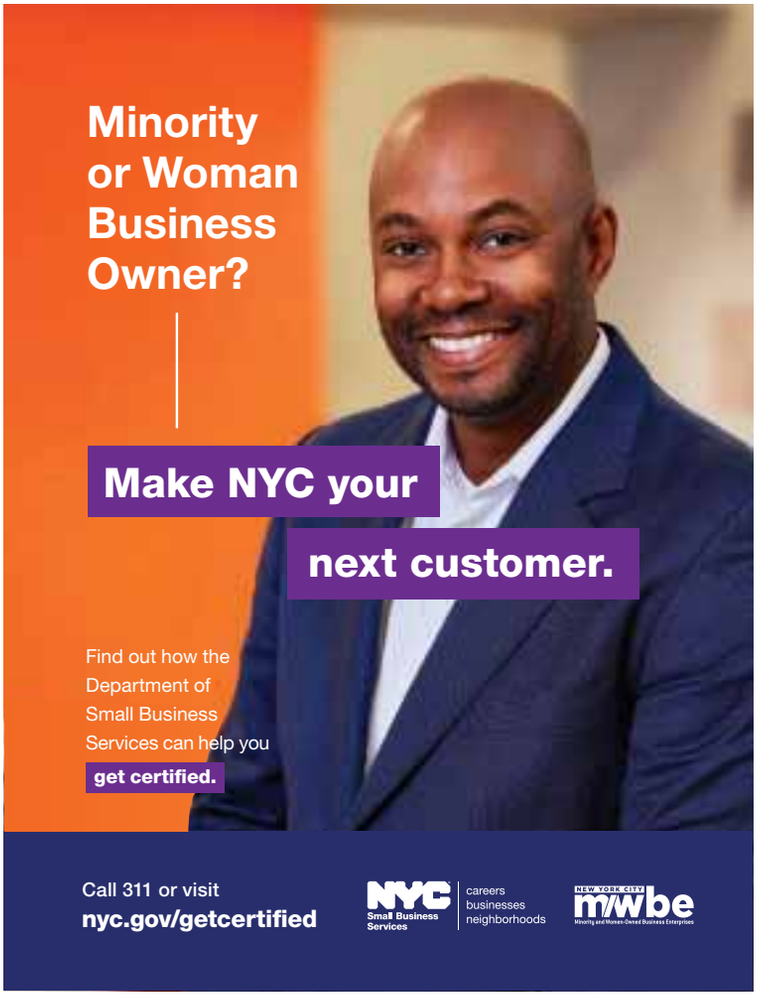
Darling was forced to leave his chair as Mets color commentator in mid-April after he announced that a large mass in his chest had to be surgically removed.

He has been working with the Mets' broadcasting network since its inception in 2006, working alongside play-by-play man Gary Cohen and fellow commentator Keith Hernandez. The trio — which has worked together in each of the last 14 seasons — is considered by many to be the best in the business.

Darling and Hernandez were teammates on the Mets from 1983 to 1990, which included a World Series title in 1986. JOE PANTORNO

GETTY IMAGES

> **"I would also like to take this opportunity to thank everybody for their continued support."**
>
> Ron Darling, former NY Mets pitcher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Lady Gaga wows on 'pink' carpet at Met Gala with four outfits

This year's theme was "Camp: Notes on Fashion."

ALL REUTERS IMAGES

Pop superstar Lady Gaga was among the first of the red carpet arrivals at New York's annual Met Gala on Monday, wearing a voluminous bright pink dress that hid three other outfits for her interpretation of the evening's theme, "Camp: Notes on Fashion."

The invitation-only event, famed for its A-list celebrities and haute couture gowns, is a fundraising benefit for New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art and also marks the opening of the Costume Institute's annual fashion exhibit.

Anna Wintour, the Vogue editor-in-chief who hosts fashion's biggest night each year, was one of the first up the red carpet-turned-pink for the evening wearing a shimmering Chanel gown topped by a cape of pink feathers that was tipped in black, a nod to the night's mascot, a flamingo.

Gaga, a co-host of the fundraiser this year, shed her Brandon Maxwell gown on the red carpet to reveal a strapless black gown by the designer. Next came a tight-fitting hot pink gown. Her final reveal before a makeup touch-up on the carpet was a black bra, panties and sky-high platform boots.

Camp, a theme that

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embraces humor, exaggeration and liberal interpretation, was inspired by writer Susan Sontag's 1964 essay "Notes on 'Camp.'"

The museum exhibit, sponsored by Gucci, "explores the origins of the camp aesthetic, and how it has evolved from a place of marginality to become an important influence on mainstream culture," according to the Costume Institute.

The frontman of British band "One Direction" and gala co-host Harry Styles arrived on the red carpet wearing a black jumpsuit with a mesh top and painted black fingernails.

Others expected to walk the pink carpet included Patriots quarterback Tom Brady and his supermodel wife Gisele Bundchen, singer and actress Jennifer Lopez and the billionaire Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos. REUTERS

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5			6			8		
	6		9			4		1
9	1		3		4			
		7	1		6	9		

MEDIUM

	2			6			8	4
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3	4			9			2	

READER WRITE-INS:

ORDERING OFF-MENU

My Grumble is with restaurants that have their waitstaff say something like, "In addition to the regular menu, we offer the following specials..." Many times the list is too long and how many can you remember? But the real Grumble is that rarely are the prices of the "specials" mentioned and you are made to feel like a cheapskate if you do ask. When the bill comes, many times there is sticker shock if you didn't ask the price before ordering. There is no reason why restaurants can't print out their "specials" with the prices listed. *Caveat emptor*: buyer beware!

— **Robert Evans,** *Metro US reader*

ISTOCK

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Get out and explore new possibilities. If something appears to be confusing or inconsistent, walk away and do your own thing. A lifestyle change will be enlightening.

Taurus Protect your reputation, possessions and position. Make a positive change that will stabilize your life. When in doubt, go directly to the source.

Gemini Share your thoughts and feelings with a special someone. Building a solid relationship requires honesty. If someone breaches your trust, question his or her loyalty.

Cancer Compromise will get you where you want to go. What you have to offer and how you get what you want in return will be determined by the standards you set.

Leo Participate in events that offer help to people in need. Don't be a follower when you can be a leader who makes a difference. Romance is highlighted.

Virgo Walk away from discord or anyone who is being difficult, indulgent or over-the-top. If you cannot make a difference, move on and try something that will get positive results.

Libra Pay attention to what's going on at home and anything regarding joint money matters. A meeting will help you sort out any differences you have with someone close to you.

Scorpio Take a break and make personal changes that will leave you feeling good. A different approach to your lifestyle will encourage you to save money. Avoid joint ventures.

Sagittarius Partnerships will be highlighted. Consider what you have to offer and what you will get in return. Negotiate and map out how to move forward. Romance is in the stars.

Capricorn Make a clean break from anything or anyone who isn't heading in the same direction as you. Surrounding yourself with supportive individuals will lead to positive change and success.

Aquarius Observe, but don't follow. If someone pressures you to do something that isn't right for you, turn your attention to personal growth, self-improvement and spending time with a loved one.

Pisces Don't get angry when you can get moving. Channel your energy into something that moves you. Helping others will raise your profile and lead to unexpected rewards. EUGENIA LAST

Lee Fields on 50 years of *baring his soul*

The legendary soul singer will be playing to the largest crowds of his career with his brand-new album, "It Rains Love."

PAT KING
patrick.king@metro.us

PROVIDED

After decades of recording music and baring his soul into a microphone, North Carolina-born soul singer Lee Fields is finally starting to see the audiences he only dreamed of as a younger performer. This year marks the singer's 50th year in the industry, and he will be going on tour to support his fantastic new album "It Rains Love" with his longtime backing band The Expressions.

After releasing his first single in 1969, the majority of Fields' career, like countless other R&B and soul acts of his era, fell into obscurity after a steady stream of releases and constant touring that never helped to bring in the audience of some of the more popular artists of that time. Sure, he had the opportunity to work with some of his heroes like B.B. King, Bobby Womack, and Dr. John. But his own music was never given the spotlight that it deserved. After giving things a good go, Fields decided to move to Newark, New Jersey, to get a job in real estate and put his musical dreams on hold in order to provide for his family.

He flirted with getting back into the music game in the '90s, but it wasn't until he linked up with Daptone Records and Soul Fire Records to release some singles in the late '90s and early 2000's that his charismatic and soulful croon started to get some attention. Coming up through the ranks with other similarly passed-over soul artists like Sharon Jones and Charles Bradley, Fields started playing in front of much larger audiences who craved vintage American soul. Fields eventually found a fan in Truth and Soul Records co-founder Leon Michels, who became his go-to songwriting partner and producer. Since then, Fields has been on an unbelievable hot streak with his backing band The Expressions, crafting albums that have topped themselves upon every subsequent release.

"Working with people like Leon, to me, it adds to the process because he seems to know what I'm thinking and I feel like I know what he's thinking," says Fields about this fruitful artistic relationship. "It's just fun."

While Fields had always been nicknamed "Little JB" for his vocal, and physical, resemblance to James Brown, with large audiences coming to see him perform these days, he has built up a whole new dynamic persona all of his own. After all those years of chasing his dreams while shivering under someone else's shadow, the time is now for Fields. And he doesn't want to waste a single minute.

"For the time and effort that we've put in, we've just seen things grow and grow. It makes all of the efforts seem worthwhile. It's like a dream come true," says Fields. "Regardless of the size of the audience, I'm going to give it 100 percent anyway. But to see the audience grow, it's heartwarming and it's just like a person watching their dreams materialize. It's a beautiful thing."

Fields and his band will certainly be making the most of this landmark year, but as a tireless artist who feels he is only as good as his last effort, Fields knows that he needs to keep doing the work in order to stay where he is. After all, if anyone knows what it takes, it's him.

"I am going to try to make the next record just as wonderful as I can. I just want to make the best songs that I can. I don't want to write something that seems temporary. If I strive to make the best recording that I can, then the recordings will be real for me," he explains. "I want to make recordings where the words are relevant in whatever time slot they may be in. Hopefully, the songs last as long as it's possible for a song to last. I would do this for as long as I can."

You can catch Lee Fields and The Expressions at Brooklyn Steel this Saturday, May 11.

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‘Tidy up’ your finances so each dollar ‘sparks joy’

NerdWallet is a personal finance website.

ISTOCK

Marie Kondo has inspired countless people to wipe out clutter. Her KonMari organizing method, popularized by her book and Netflix series, lays out how to get more joy from your life and possessions.

This approach can extend to your money, too. Applying her mindset can reduce the financial clutter in your life and help you make a better plan for each dollar. Here’s how to “Marie-Kondo” your finances.

Commit — and imagine a better future

Before you dive in, commit yourself to the task and visualize what you’ll gain.

Do you want to spend less on eating out? Are you saving up for a car or a house? Have a clear picture of your goal — a zero balance on your credit card, or that new car or home — to stay focused throughout the process.

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the other side, it's a lot easier to create a path to get there," says Kimberly Zimmerman Rand, a Boston financial coach.

Understand your categories

Kondo's method of tidying focuses on sorting through categories, like clothing, books and paperwork, and miscellaneous items.

Pull a few months of bank and credit card statements and take the same approach to your three main spending categories: needs, wants and savings.

Needs

The non-negotiables, like housing and debt payments, fall into this category. These monthly expenses may not bring you joy, but they keep a roof over your head and your credit score afloat.

If this category consumes an outsized portion of your income, see where you can trim. Trading in your car for a less expensive one, for example, could mean an extra $100 in your bank account every month. That gives you the ability to tuck a little more into savings.

Debt payments may be an unavoidable part of your budget, but you can find ways to make them fit more neatly. If you're sorting through a mess of credit card bills, for example, see about reworking the terms. By consolidating debt onto a credit card with an introductory 0 percent interest rate or via a personal loan, you can pay less in interest, though you'll need good credit to qualify. And you'll have less paperwork and fewer monthly payments to manage.

Wants

Chances are this category brings you the most joy — but it's also likely where you can trim the most. Expenses like meals out, new clothes or vacations fit here.

Examine your spending on wants and ask if each one brings commensurate enjoyment. If not, trim or cut that expense. Keeping that money in your accounts could make you happier by reducing financial stress or helping you see progress on retirement savings.

Subscription services are an easy target, says Brian Walsh, a certified financial planner and manager of financial planning at SoFi, an online lender.

"When people start tracking their spending, they may see unused services come up," Walsh says. "Gym memberships, game memberships, Netflix and Hulu at the same time. These can be easy cuts to make."

Savings

This category can be a little too easy to keep minimal. In fact, 4 in 10 Americans said they couldn't come up with $400 in an emergency or would have to borrow or sell something, according to a May 2018 report by the Federal Reserve.

Building up your savings helps keep your finances tidy when life gets messy, such as when a sudden car repair pops up. Tucking away even $50 a month can make a difference.

Set yourself up for success

Once you've tidied up your spending categories, it's time to set yourself up to achieve financial goals. Streamline your money management and reduce paperwork you may have lying around.

Automating payments for things like utility bills, student loan payments and credit card payments is an easy option. It also protects you from accidentally missing a payment and tanking your credit score.

Shred old financial paperwork, such as bank statements or paid utility bills. Signing up for digital versions online means there's no need to keep them. Don't go overboard, though; you do want to hang on to tax documents.

To keep up the good habits in the long run, Kristen Holt, CEO of the nonprofit credit counseling agency GreenPath Financial Wellness, recommends focusing on your goals.

"Take steps to set and forget your finances, like automating payments," Holt says. "And continue to tie your work back to your dream."

This article was written by NerdWallet and was originally published by The Associated Press.

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Matz, Vargas injuries stress missed opportunities for Mets

The Mets' starting pitching depth is under siege following a pair of injuries over the weekend.

JOE PANTORNO
joseph.pantorno@metro.us

Jason Vargas (left) and Steven Matz (right) suffered injuries during the Mets' weekend series with the Brewers. GETTY IMAGES

The inactivity of Brodie Van Wagenen and ownership is rounding third and heading toward biting the New York Mets in the rear.

After sitting idly by and letting an affordable depth starter in Gio Gonzalez go to the Milwaukee Brewers, the Mets were hit with some injury setbacks over the weekend.

Steven Matz was sent back to New York on Sunday so team doctors could examine a nerve issue in his left forearm. It's an issue that has been a part of his lengthy injury history as he underwent surgery in 2017 to readjust the ulnar nerve in his left elbow.

MLB Network's Jon Heyman reported on Monday morning that the nerve issue will keep Matz out for just a start or two for precautionary purposes. So a major injury scare looks to have been avoided — at least on his part.

Sunday also saw Jason Vargas leave his start against those very same Brewers early due to a hamstring injury after just four innings. He is set to be re-evaluated on Monday to determine the severity of his injury.

It forced the Mets' bullpen into another hard day of work after an 18-inning marathon on Saturday night which saw the Brewers come away with a 4-3 victory behind a Ryan Braun walk-off single. The Mets fell below .500 for the first time this season before getting swept on Sunday in a 3-2 loss.

In typical Mets fashion, Milwaukee's pitcher on Saturday was none other than Gonzalez, who allowed one run on three hits in 5.1 innings of work while striking out seven.

Both his starts since signing with the Brewers late last month have come against the Mets. He has a 2.61 ERA this year.

Matz has a 3.86 ERA while Vargas' is a 5.92.

While New York's pitching is in shambles, their offense has disappeared over the past 11 games, averaging just 2.55 runs per day. They have won just a single series over the past month.

Now their left-handed starting depth is falling under seige, which might finally force Van Wagenen and manager Mickey Callaway to scramble for some legitimate pitching depth.

Instead of addressing this looming issue with ample time earlier this season, as most MLB teams would have, the Mets' penny-pinching ways prevailed once again.

And once again, it's going to hurt the team.

Gonzalez was a clear choice to step in as the Mets' No. 5 starter if needed. His numbers at Citi Field over his career have been sterling: an 11-2 record with a 1.83 ERA and 101 strikeouts in 18 starts. He also boasts plenty of experience pitching in the NL East after spending six-plus seasons with the Washington Nationals.

He was a far more affordable option than Dallas Keuchel — the 2015 AL Cy Young Award winner who is still a free agent and could provide the Mets' rotation with a boost.

But if the Mets didn't want to outbid the Brewers on the one-year, $2 million contract signed by Gonzalez, they certainly won't give a multi-year deal to Keuchel.

Van Wagenen acquired reliever Wilmer Font from the Tampa Bay Rays on Tuesday to provide another option, as first reported by MLB.com's Anthony DiComo. While Font has a 5.79 ERA this year, he had a 1.71 ERA in five starts last season. That could mean the Mets will try him out at the bottom of the rotation.

If not, the Mets might have to break up their already-banged-up bullpen and use Seth Lugo or Robert Gsellman — both right-handers — as spot starters.

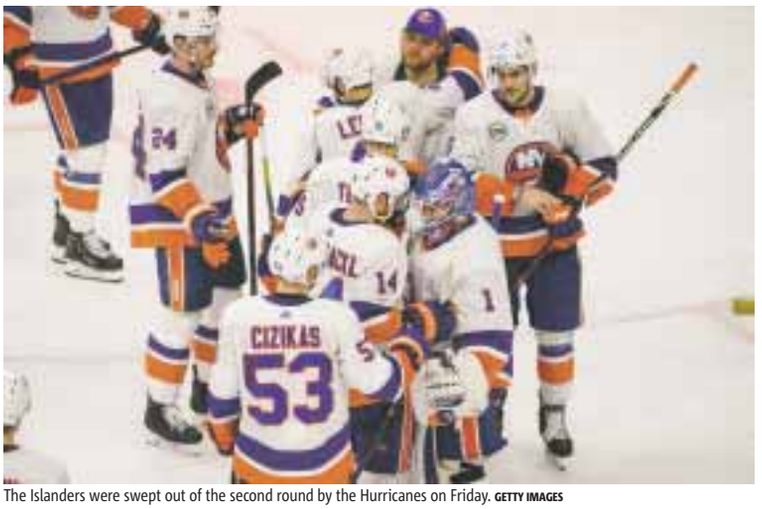
Islanders likely to look for offensive upgrades this offseason

Locker cleanout day on Monday provided the New York Islanders with an opportunity to reflect on a season that surpassed all expectations while starting to look ahead.

The Islanders put up 103 points this season, the most since the 1983-84 season, and swept the Pittsburgh Penguins in the first round of the playoffs before being swept by the Carolina Hurricanes.

The second-round series proved that the Islanders were not offensively gifted enough to make a deeper run at the Stanley Cup. They were held to just five goals in four games, an expected result considering their offense was ranked 12th out of 15 teams.

First-year head coach Barry Trotz instituted a staunch defensive structure to make up for the lack of offensive punch following John Tavares' departure.



The Islanders were swept out of the second round by the Hurricanes on Friday. GETTY IMAGES

A lack of goals was a necessary evil to contend with if it meant posting wins.

Anders Lee scored just 28 goals after putting up 40 the year prior. Mathew Barzal's sophomore season presented plenty of bumps as his point total decreased from 85 to 62. Josh Bailey's output dipped from 71 points to 56.

Whether it was the Islanders' new game plan or the loss of a generational star in Tavares, Trotz made do with what he had to the best of his abilities.

But when the Islanders ran into a Hurricanes team that played a similar brand of hockey with a few more skill players, they proved to be no match.

Year 1 of the Trotz and Lou Lamoriello regime is officially complete, which means major changes could be on the horizon.

Trotz alluded to that possibility on Monday when speaking about the future of his offense.

"[We need] A little more pop up front, I think," he said, per Arthur Staple of The Athletic. "That's probably what we needed all season."

It was a major point of controversy just a few months ago, when the Islanders decided to stand pat at the trade deadline instead of acquiring an elite scorer.

Lamoriello stressed the long game, however, stating he did not want to give up future assets needed for continuous success.

Expect the Islanders to be major players on the free-agent market this summer, though, because they have an estimated $47.8 million in cap space, per Spotrac.com. Only the Colorado Avalanche, Ottawa Senators and New Jersey Devils have more space.

A free-agent class that features Matt Duchene, Artemi Panarin and Jeff Skinner could provide Trotz and the Islanders with that much-needed offensive upgrade to take that next step toward a Stanley Cup.

JOE PANTORNO

THE KENTUCKY DERBY: INSTANT REPLAY RUINS ANOTHER SPORT

THE SPORTS PROFESSOR

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The fastest two minutes in sports devolved into a half-hour of tedium and confusion Saturday. The Kentucky Derby ended in embarrassment, with genteel horse-racing fans angrily chanting "bull—" on national television as a back-up winner was crowned.

And another sport was infected by the curse that is instant replay.

In case you weren't among the 20 million TV viewers, here's what happened: Maximum Security, the fastest horse in the field, went wire-to-wire and won by one-and-a-half lengths. He was draped with the garland of roses. His joyous jockey and owner were interviewed.

NBC was about to wrap and move to hockey when word came that two also-rans (one of whom finished 16th) claimed Maximum Security interfered with their paths. Racing has a system for such complaints, but it is rarely employed — and had never affected the results in 145 years of the Derby. On this rainy Saturday, it did. For more than 20 minutes, race stewards scrutinized every molecule of film, from every angle. They eventually concluded that, yes, Maximum Security had made contact and cut off the paths of others. And so the horse that led the entire way was stripped of his title. It was given to Country House, a 65-1 underdog who hadn't even been affected by the bumping.

This is the curse of instant replay: It parses minutiae, frame-by-frame, to tell you that your eyes didn't see what you just saw. It takes sports into a dark room and emerges insisting that the also-ran must be the winner.

It's everywhere now. You can't watch any sport without the drama being stripped by an announcement that the previous play is being reviewed in some off-site studio. Spontaneity is gone. You can't cheer a highlight until the coaches' challenge is heard or the events affirmed by super-slow motion.

Maximum Security (pink) was stripped of the 2019 Kentucky Derby title after instant replay. GETTY IMAGES

The argument for all this, of course, is the need to get it correct. On its face, that has merit. The problem is that instant replay still often gets it wrong. We've all seen refs make the right call on the field, then study the film, then botch things up with a foolish reversal.

Before replay, no one in football wondered what a catch was. We just knew. Now we analyze every replay like it's the Zapruder film, just to see if the ball's nose may have touched one blade of grass.

I'm no horse-racing maven, so I can't speak to the alleged foul during that Derby downpour. What I witnessed was 19 tightly-packed half-ton animals stampeding through peanut butter. It seemed miraculous that they didn't all crash into each other.

But my friend Dick Jerardi is among the country's foremost racing authorities. On my radio show Sunday, Dick argued that if it took the stewards 20 minutes to rule, well, they mustn't have been certain they saw much of a foul. And that being the case, it was inane to disqualify the obvious top horse.

Look, I know the genie is out of this bottle. Replay isn't going away. And often, I'll concede, it rights egregious wrongs.

But it has become the joyless despot governing sports. Can we scale it back a little? Can we live without the frame-by-frame replays studying whether a base stealer's finger left the bag for 1/24th of a second? Can we leave it for the big moments?

In the end, replay rarely settles the arguments. All it does is start new ones. And it takes forever to do so.

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German a security blanket for Yanks

Amidst the slow start and the injuries, the New York Yankees stumbled upon yet another diamond in the rough.

With the news on Sunday that Luis Severino will be out until after the All-Star break with a lat strain that accompanied his rotator cuff issue, German shined once again against the Minnesota Twins.

The 26-year-old went a strong 6.2 innings, allowing a single run on four hits to go with seven strikeouts as the Yankees took the rubber game of the three-game series.

His latest gem was good enough for his sixth win of the season, tied for the most in Major League Baseball.

Not bad for a pitcher who was not even supposed to be in the starting rotation this year. The Yankees' 2019 rotation was set to feature Severino, James Paxton, Masahiro Tanaka, JA Happ and CC Sabathia. Injuries to Severino and Paxton, along with Sabathia's early-season recoveries, ensured German was able to get consistent starts in the majors.

He's run with the opportunity.

Domingo German. GETTY IMAGES

German has gone at least six innings in each of his last five starts, allowing three or fewer runs in three of them.

His ERA has shrunk to just 2.35, which ranks fourth-best in the American League.

It's a complete 180 from his 2018 season, posting a 5.57 ERA, as he's found a new level of application.

"It's about concentration when you're on the mound, and not losing that confidence," German said, per MLB.com. "You understand that even if things don't go your way, you never lose your concentration. If a hitter is going to hit a good pitch, make sure that is exactly a pitch that you want to throw. When you execute a pitch, execute with conviction."

The emergence of his ace-like stuff couldn't have come at a better time for the Yankees, who continue to find ways to win games despite 12 players being on the injured list.

Yankees manager Aaron Boone, though, expected this all along.

"We certainly envisioned him making starts and being a valuable member of our club in some way, shape or form," Boone said. "When he came into Spring Training, it was visible the strides he had made — going back to last year, and where he's at now. He's been, to this point, one of the better pitchers in the game." JOE PANTORNO

LEGAL NOTICES

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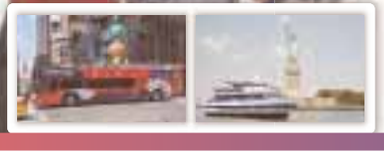

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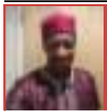

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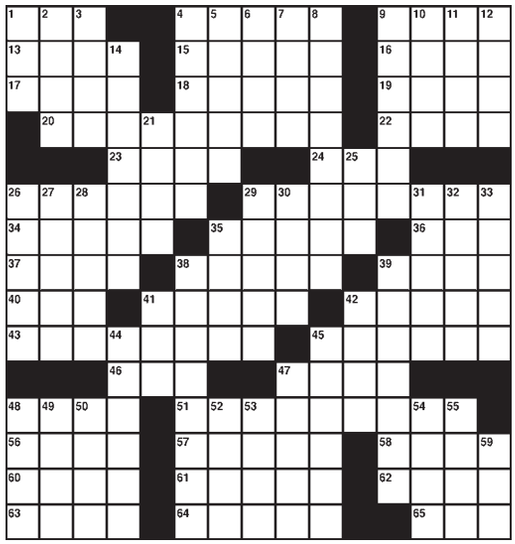


ACROSS

1 Helper for Santa
4 Despise
9 Shady deal
13 Tolerate
15 Group of cattle
16 Bustle
17 Cake recipe verb
18 Word in many bowling alley names
19 Wander
20 Derelict in duty
22 Large trees
23 Steals from
24 Scale divisions: abbr.
26 Valuables
29 Agreeable
34 BBQ rods
35 Donald Duck's love
36 __ double take; look twice
37 On one's __; alert
38 Locations
39 Money owed
40 Caress
41 Conjecture
42 Colorful fall tree
43 Endless time
45 Trade goods or services
46 Shack
47 Bride's accessory
48 Stratagem
51 Going up
56 Insinuation
57 Facial hair
58 Just around the corner
60 Linear measure
61 At __; free to roam
62 "__ grip!"; cry to the hysterical
63 Appear
64 Firstborn of two
65 Lion's lair

DOWN

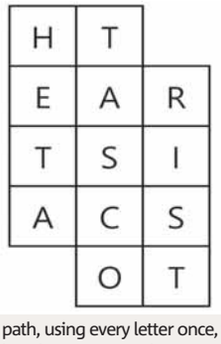
1 Recede
2 Slender; thin
3 Phony
4 Speaks off the cuff
5 Boasts
6 Sharpen
7 Kitchen appliance
8 Fidgety
9 Emphasize
10 Weather forecast
11 Cain & Abel's dad
12 May honorees
14 Wishes one hadn't done
21 Oodles
25 Baseball's Tampa __ Rays
26 TV's "__ World Turns"
27 Part of a pitcher
28 Military attack
29 Singer Cline
30 Fails to be truthful
31 Skillful
32 Aristocratic
33 Spud
35 Try to lose
38 Appropriate
39 Sweetheart
41 Wildebeest
42 Housekeeper
44 Musical beat
45 Drinking spree
47 Brink; threshold
48 Greek letters
49 Out of __; misbehaving
50 __ more; again
52 Official stamp
53 King or queen
54 Have to have
55 Plane boarder's waiting place
59 __ out on; deserted

Yesterday's Answers

	B	U	D		R	E	B	E	L		W	H	O	S
F	E	N	D		E	X	I	L	E		H	E	R	E
T	A	B	S		S	A	L	M	O	N	E	L	L	A
D	U	E		M	O	C	K	S		A	N	D	Y	S
		A	T	I	L	T			T	I	C			
B	E	R	A	T	E			R	I	V	E	R	S	
A	D	A	P	T		P	R	I	M	E		A	L	A
R	I	B	S		R	O	A	D	S		S	T	E	W
N	F	L		F	U	D	G	E		P	E	T	E	R
	Y	E	A	R	N	S			R	E	A	L	T	Y
			D	O	G			H	A	S	T	E		
S	T	E	M	S		P	L	A	I	T		T	R	Y
T	R	A	I	T	O	R	O	U	S		F	R	E	E
O	U	S	T		F	O	R	T	E		L	A	D	S
W	E	T	S		A	D	D	E	D		U	P	S	

wander words

Category: Film Fusion



Trace a path, using every letter once, to find the hidden phrase. Your path can turn in any direction, but not diagonally.

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8							4	
	6		5	7		3	9	
9			8	6	4	1	2	7
			6		3		7	4
	9			8			1	
6	8		4		2			
7	4	9	2	3	6			1
	2	6		4	8		3	
	3							2

metro.us/wordsearch

V	E	L	M	A	J	O	N	E	S
U	Y	D	I	N	K	L	E	Y	M
F	S	R	E	G	O	R	E	B	E
E	R	Y	E	H	Q	N	S	O	D
N	V	E	B	T	H	Q	P	O	D
I	K	H	D	P	S	P	L	C	L
H	S	H	A	G	G	Y	D	S	I
C	P	D	D	I	M	T	M	O	N
A	N	O	I	A	K	W	N	Z	G
M	O	H	K	K	B	L	A	K	E

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Dinkley
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